(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Reservation counter in Nagercoil

3546. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the reservation counter at Nagercoil is not working properly; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that after 2.00 P.M. only one counter remains working and as a result it is very difficult for, the public to book tickets there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) At present, two computerised reservation counters in the morning shift *i.e.* from 8.00 hrs. to 14.00 hrs. and one counter in the evening shift i.e. from 14.00 hrs. to 20.00 hrs. are functioning in Nagercoil Junction. These counters are functioning satisfactorily and are adequate to deal with the present level of reservation related transactions.

Rake points

†3547. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of rake points in the country, including Madhya Pradesh; whether this number in Madhya Pradesh is sufficient in view of the large size of the State; and

(b) if not, the number of new rake points proposed to be set up before forthcoming Kharif season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The present number of Full Rake handling points in the country are 936, of which 75 are in Madhya Pradesh which are considered to be sufficient. At times of need, half rake handling points and two point combinations are also allowed.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.